GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:950
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2005
ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT
Singh Shri Lakshman

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced an allocation of Rs.70,000 crores for developing wasteland in the country during the recent held meeting of NDC in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to assist States like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and others which have huge tracts of wasteland in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a)&(b) No announcement regarding allocation of Rs. 70,000 crores for developing wastelands has been made by the Government during the 51st meeting of National Development Council held on 27/28th June, 2005. However, in his presentation to the Council, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission had stated that Rs.70,000 crores would be required to treat the remaining treatable wastelands. He further stated that additional resources would need to be directed to this area in future.

(c) State-wise total Central assistance provided so far and area taken up for treatment under Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) for treatment of wastelands, drought proofing and checking desertification from 1.4.1995 to 31.3.2005 is given in Annexure.